



PUBLIC ART PROGRAM

Library, College of Eastern Utah, San Juan Campus Public Art Call for Proposals

Requests artist qualifications, proposals or existing work for the COLLEGE OF EASTERN UTAH, SAN JUAN CAMPUS BLANDING, UTAH

Qualifications, proposals or proposed appropriate existing artworks are requested from artists and/or artist teams who are interested in placing their work for the new library facility at the College of Eastern Utah, San Juan Campus in Blanding, Utah.

DEADLINE FOR PROPOSALS: August 1, 2006

BLANDING, UTAH

At an elevation of 6,036 feet, [Blanding](#) is twenty-one miles south of Monticello on US 191, and is the largest and youngest community in the county.

Perched on White Mesa near Blue Mountain in southeastern Utah, the town of Blanding sits at the southern end of the Great Sage Plain. Documented Anasazi occupation of this site extends to as early as A.D. 600, with dwellings being constructed as late as the early 1200s. Archaic Indian sites that far predate this period also exist at the foot of White Mesa. Utes and an occasional Navajo also camped in this area because of the water from local springs and seeps. Before the town was built, Navajos called the location "Sagebrush," because of that plant's luxuriant growth that swept through the pinion and junipers to the base of the mountain.

Originally established as the town of Grayson, in 1905 by Walter and Albert Lyman, Blanding was settled by Mormon pioneers of the Hole-in-the-Rock expedition, who had earlier established the town of Bluff, to the south. The 250 Hole-in-the-Rock pioneers had spent six months in late 1879 and early 1880 traveling with their families and 1000 head of cattle from Escalante, Utah to Bluff, enduring winter weather and seemingly impassable terrain.

Between 1912 and 1916 Blanding received an infusion of new blood because of political unrest in Mexico. Many Mormon families, who had previously fled south of the border during the intense anti-polygamy persecution of the 1870s and 1880s, abandoned their Mexican homes and moved back to the United States. Some found refuge in San Juan County. In January 1914 the town could claim a population of 500 people; five years later it had risen to 1,100. Not all of this growth was attributable to events in Mexico, but a sufficient amount of immigration occurred to create in the minds of at least some of the early settlers a slight division between them and the newcomers, called "Pachecoites."

According to the 1990 census, Blanding has a population of 3,162 people, over a third of whom are enrolled in some type of educational program. Education is currently one of the largest employers in Blanding and surrounding San Juan County—a region that was built by earlier livestock, uranium, and oil booms. The corner of Utah in which Blanding is located includes the Utah Strip of the Navajo Nation, the largest Native American Tribe in the U.S., with a young and rapidly growing population, and the White Mesa Community of the Ute Mountain Ute Reservation. The College of Eastern Utah San Juan Campus, established in 1977, provides two-year degrees to students who come from Blanding as well as the wider four-corners region: Monument Valley and Montezuma Creek to the south, Monticello Utah, to the north, and Navajo Mountain, near Lake Powell, to the west.

Robert S. McPherson

COLLEGE OF EASTERN UTAH, SAN JUAN CAMPUS

The College of Eastern Utah is committed to the highest standards of instruction and learning in its academic and applied technology programs. The College prepares students for certification, degree or transfer programs and recognizes that education continues beyond graduation. We strive to help instill the curiosity and skills necessary for a student to continue learning throughout life.

The College of Eastern Utah provides a complete campus experience, for both traditional and non-traditional students. We seek to be involved and responsive to our community. The College affirms a special role in representing the human diversity of our region, state, country, and world. Our campus is surrounded by the beauty of mountains, high deserts, and deep canyons.

The College of Eastern Utah - San Juan Campus adheres to the mission and goals of the college by providing associate degrees, short-term vocational training, continuing education, and student support services to the residents of San Juan County and the Four-Corners area. It is committed to maintain current technology in instructional delivery, educational emphasis, and content.

It meets a unique need within the state by providing services to culturally diverse communities in which Native Americans and Anglo-Americans share an interest in and a curriculum infused with Native American content are emphasized. The campus plays a significant role in economic development, enhancement of community relations, and improvement of conditions of ethnic groups in the area.

BUILDING DESCRIPTION: by Dale Barreth, GSBS Architects

The design for the CEU-San Juan Health Science & Library building grew out of recognition that the region offered important cues. First of all there are the physical forms and colors that the rock formations, prevalent in the high desert offer. Early

cultures and settlers to the region took these materials for their shelter needs and initiated a unique architecture that is native.

We acknowledged these materials and forms borrowing and reinterpreting them in formalizing a concept in which to base the design of the building. The entry plaza is oriented to the Southwest. The wall is curved to give both some enclosure to the exterior plaza, and also to acknowledge the future planned quadrangle that is planned. It also focuses the view to a tower that is located approximately ½ miles from the building.

This wall not only encloses the plaza on the exterior, it provides a point of interest for the large indoor space that was designed to give the college community a space for social interaction.

This building is organized off of the lobby, with Administration, Library, & Art Department functions on the first floor. Classrooms and Labs are located on the 2nd Floor. The plan is very open and was designed to bring daylight into every area that is occupied.

Landscape design for the plaza begins with an understanding of the site, natural forms and historic cultural influences.

Particularly important is the integration of the native landscape features of stone, plants, and topographic forms including their significant color, texture, and relative size. The plaza and landscape was developed and designed to accommodate all physical abilities of people to use the space, and integrate the forms, textures, colors, and geometry seamlessly into the building – making a smooth transition between outdoors and indoors.

The shape and form of the plaza itself derived from the curved wall of the building and its orientation to the southwest, the major part of the campus and a potential future quad area. Raised helical planters reflect naturally occurring forms, gives additional dimension to the space, provides areas where people and interact with the organic stone. These shapes help define the space as nurturing, embracing, and protective. The form also propels outward into the future quad area and heart of the campus, and toward the south and west directions.

The created outside spaces were oriented such that they could be used for a variety of functions including outdoor learning, exhibits, passive and active functions, and follows natural pedestrian walkways through spaces.

The backdrop of the helical wall with its natural stone fascia, protects people within the plaza and provides an area where students and teachers can interact, “decompress” after class, or prepare for intense learning within the building.

BUILDING USE:

The Blanding Health Science/Library Building will house classroom and office space for CEU-SJC's health careers and science programs, art facilities, and an expanded library. Distance Education Classrooms will operate in the HSL, which broadcast classes to several high schools, as well as three CEU Family Learning Centers in Southeast Utah. In addition, counseling, testing, registration, academic advising, and other administrative services will be located here, making this building the first and most frequent stop for our students. Open space will be reclaimed to the west of the building, and a quadrangle, with the Health Science/Library Building at one end, will be the heart of campus as it continues to grow.

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

The committee has expressed a desire for the themes and designs of this commission(s) to take into consideration the placement of this building not only as a part of the campus, but as a part of the wider region, including the interconnection and interdependence of the area's natural history with its human history, cultural diversity/unity, and the tenacity required to thrive in a desert environment. Regional and Native American artists are encouraged to apply

Potential sites for this public art commission are: (1) the interior lobby airspace below the skylight, (2) the exterior courtyard embraced by the stone wall façade, and (3) interior walls that adjoin the lobby space, on floors one or two.

ELIGIBILITY:

Artists / artist teams are encouraged to apply. American or legal resident artists are eligible. Employees and / or consultants of GSBS Architects are not eligible for this commission. Artists residing in Illinois are not eligible due to reciprocity requirements from other State public art programs.

BUDGET:

\$40,000 is available for all related expenses of this Public Art commission including artist fees, fabrication, insurance, shipping, travel, installation, documentation, etc.

REQUIRED MATERIALS AND CONDITIONS REGARDING SUBMISSIONS

Artists wishing to be considered must submit a complete application. Incomplete and/or late applications cannot be accepted.

- All written material should be on white, single sided, un-stapled, and un-bound 8 ½" x 11" paper
- We do not have color photocopy capability. If you expect the committee to view color within your proposal before the review meeting you should include ten copies of the color portion.
- Documents or drawings over 8 ½" x 11" or models cannot be accepted for this phase.
- Faxed or e-mailed applications cannot be accepted.

The Utah Arts Council cannot be responsible for applications lost in transit. While all reasonable care will be taken in the handling of materials, neither the Utah Arts Council nor the College of Eastern Utah San Juan Campus Library Art Selection Committee will be liable for late, lost or damaged materials. We strongly suggest originals or one-of-a-kind material not be submitted for this preliminary phase.

All applications must include the following:

- A letter of interest not more than three typewritten pages. This letter should include the artist's reasons for interest in this project in particular. In doing so, the artist should also describe how his/her work and experience relates to the project. If submitting a proposal or existing work please include the medium, size and estimated budget.
- Slide documentation of previous work that represent site-specific artwork and/or design projects on which the artist was a team member. If proposing existing work at least one image should be of the proposed work. Up to ten (10) slides in 35mm format with 2" x 2" paper or plastic mounts of applicable work labeled with artist's name and identification number (for ID sheet.) Indicate on the slide the top of the image. Slides should be submitted in a 9" x 11" clear plastic slide file sheet.

- OR -

CD (PC format,) or DVD of up to 10 images DIGITAL IMAGES: Images should be sent on virus-free PC-compatible CD-ROM in .jpg file format. Each file should be named with artist surname and image number to correspond with annotated image list. Maximum image size should be no more than 300dpi and no larger than 1024 x 768 pixel resolution or DVD (of no more than 3 minutes) or VHS (of no more than 3 minutes cued to the point you wish the committee to view) are also acceptable media as documentation of artist's projects and work created for public spaces

- An identification sheet must accompany documentation. This sheet should include title, year, medium, dimensions
- A professional resume (do not staple or double side resume.)
- An addressed and stamped envelope of ample size for return of documentation. Material that is not accompanied by a stamped envelope cannot be returned.

DEADLINE:

Complete application packages must be received at the Utah Arts Council on or before August 1, 2006 5 p.m. (THIS IS NOT A POSTMARK DEADLINE)

The College of Eastern Utah San Juan Campus Library Art Selection Committee reserves the right to withhold the award of a commission should it be determined that the proposals submitted are unacceptable.

Please mail, courier or hand-deliver applications to:

Jim Glenn, Utah Public Art Program
Attention: CEU San Juan Project
Utah Arts Council
617 East South Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84102

ON-SITE / PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING:

A meeting has been scheduled for interested artist to visit the site and address questions to the architect, the college and the Public Art Program on June 29, 2006 at 1 pm in the conference room of the Arts and Events Center on the San Juan Campus of the College of Eastern Utah, in Blanding, Utah. This is an optional meeting. Attendance is not a requirement in order to submit material for consideration.

SELECTION PROCESS AND TIMELINE:

The Selection Committee will review all art and proposals arriving by the deadline and containing the required material. A short list of semi-finalists will be selected and invited to interview and submit a more in depth proposal and maquette to the committee for a small honorarium. The honorarium will be applied toward the commission amount for the artist(s) awarded the commission. Final selection(s) will be made from the semi-finalists. The schedule follows:

June 29, 2006	Artist pre-proposal meeting
August 1, 2006	Deadline for receipt of proposals
August 24, 2006	Committee review
October 13, 2006	Presentation by semi-finalists
February 2007	Building opens (artist deadline to be negotiated)

ART SELECTION COMMITTEE:

Dale Berruth	GSBS Architects
David Garce	GSBS Architects
Gail Glover	College of Eastern Utah (CEU), Dean of Students
Anthony Lott	CEU, Professor, Art and Design
David McKay	Division of Facilities Construction and Management
Robert McPherson	CEU, Vice President
Karolyn Romero	CEU, Drug, Alcohol and ADA Program Coordinator
Tony Wojcik	CEU, Artist and Arts Educator
Heather Young	CEU, Technology Facilitator / Distance Education Coordinator

This information and other public art projects are available on our website at:
www.arts.utah.gov/publicart/

If you have any questions please call: Jim Glenn at 801-533-3585 or e-mail at: jglenn@utah.gov or
Liza Julien at 801-533-3585 or ljulien@utah.gov

Please note the Utah Arts Council maintains an Artist Slide Bank of artists working in all media that are interested in Public Art Projects in Utah. If you are interested in being included in this bank please call, write, visit
http://arts.utah.gov/public_art_program/slidebank.html
or e-mail us to request a registration form.